

FOREIGN POLICY
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From Washington's day until World War II, U.S. intelligence activities did not arouse significant concern because they were sufficiently limited. But in 1947, recalling the government's inability to bring together available intelligence that might have alerted the country to the impending attack on Pearl Harbor, President Truman centralized American intelligence activities. The president established the

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telligence operations and to restore traditional guarantees of personal rights. The destructive criticism of all secret intelligence activity during this period demonstrated how far the national attitude had shifted toward a concern for individual rights and high standards of legality even at the cost of national security.

In February 1976 President Ford issued an executive order governing the conduct of intelligence activities. In particular, the order laid down rules severely limiting intrusions into the lives of Americans. In January 1978 President Carter revised the Ford executive order, making minor changes in existing domestic constraints and establishing new procedures requiring the CIA director to clear sensitive collection activities in advance with the National Security Council (NSC). Congress established a requirement to review certain intelligence operations and set up two permanent committees to oversee intelligence activities.

But four years after the Ford executive order, concern that intelligence agencies might abuse secrecy began to diminish. The country was shaking itself free of the inhibiting consequences of its debacle in Vietnam and was ready to acknowledge once again the need to

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